



Kokoda Initiative

The Kokoda Initiative (KI) is a partnership between the Governments of Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Australia to sustainably develop and protect the Kokoda Track and surrounding areas.

Our Vision

To support the sustainable development of the Owen Stanley Ranges, Brown River Catchment and Kokoda Track Region, preserving its special natural, cultural and historic values.

KI support is delivered under three components: People, Track and Environment.

PEOPLE

KI supports livelihood improvements for landowners and communities through health, education and sanitation projects and income generation activities.

Highlights

- Four new clinics built and four clinics refurbished since 2010
- Regular health patrols to 100 villages by KI-supported Village Health Volunteers
- 21 double classrooms built since 2010, with capacity for more than 1000 students
- Training and certification for 125 elementary and primary school teachers in various capacity development courses.
- Seven health workers along the track accredited to prescribe antiretroviral drugs for HIV positive patients.

TRACK

KI works with partners like the Kokoda Track Authority (KTA) to enhance track safety for local communities and visitors, through maintenance, communications networks and improved access.

Highlights

- VHF radio network replaced and extended across 24 sites.
- Airstrip maintenance at Kokoda Station.
- Owers Corner Road upgraded to improve access at the track's southern end.
- KTA track upgrades scheduled for 10 sites to 30 June 2017. Activities include bridge works, earthworks, track maintenance and conservation.
- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service Rangers to provide mentoring and coaching to KTA Rangers to upgrade key sites in 2017.



"The enduring friendship between our two nations, forged in wartime on the Kokoda Track, has evolved into a modern day development partnership. The Kokoda Initiative reflect the strong commitment of the Governments of Australia and PNG to improving the quality of life in track communities, to protecting the environment and cultural values, and to keeping the track safe."

— Australian High Commissioner Bruce Davis

ENVIRONMENT

KI supports the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) and National Museum and Art Gallery (NMAG) to preserve the region's unique biodiversity and cultural and military heritage.

Highlights

- KI supports stakeholders working towards World Heritage listing of the region.
- A 2016 military history survey identified the location and condition of significant war relics.
- A dedicated adviser will work with NMAG to develop and implement a comprehensive military heritage management strategy for the Kokoda region.
- Almost 15 per cent of PNG's plants and 63 per cent of PNG's mainland birds are found in the Kokoda Track Interim Protection Zone.



The Kokoda Initiative, in partnership with Kokoda Track Authority, keeps the track safe for trekkers and locals.



KI supports maternal and child health in track communities through its network of Village Health Volunteers.



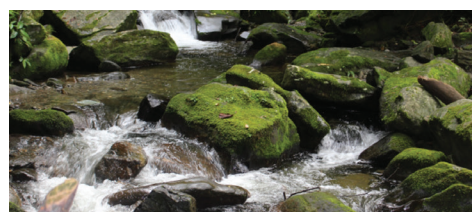
Health worker Jerry Dimuda, from Kagi.



KI-supported health workers conduct tuberculosis tests in the field, speeding up diagnosis and enabling faster treatment of TB-positive patients.



The Kokoda Initiative has supported local communities through the provision of vital infrastructure. Double classrooms, staff houses, clinics and sanitation infrastructure have been constructed in villages throughout the Kokoda Track.



KI works with local communities, the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority and the Australian Department of Environment and Energy to protect the natural environment along the Track.



"The Kokoda Initiative symbolises the friendship between Papua New Guinea and Australia. We are proud to continue working together in this unique region, preserving the magnificent environment and maintaining our richly historic Kokoda Track."

— PNG Environment Minister John Pundari

KI PARTNERS

